



# Pierce Transit

Connecting you with life



**Bus System Recovery & Phased  
Implementation Plan  
Board of Commissioners Meeting  
November 13, 2023**

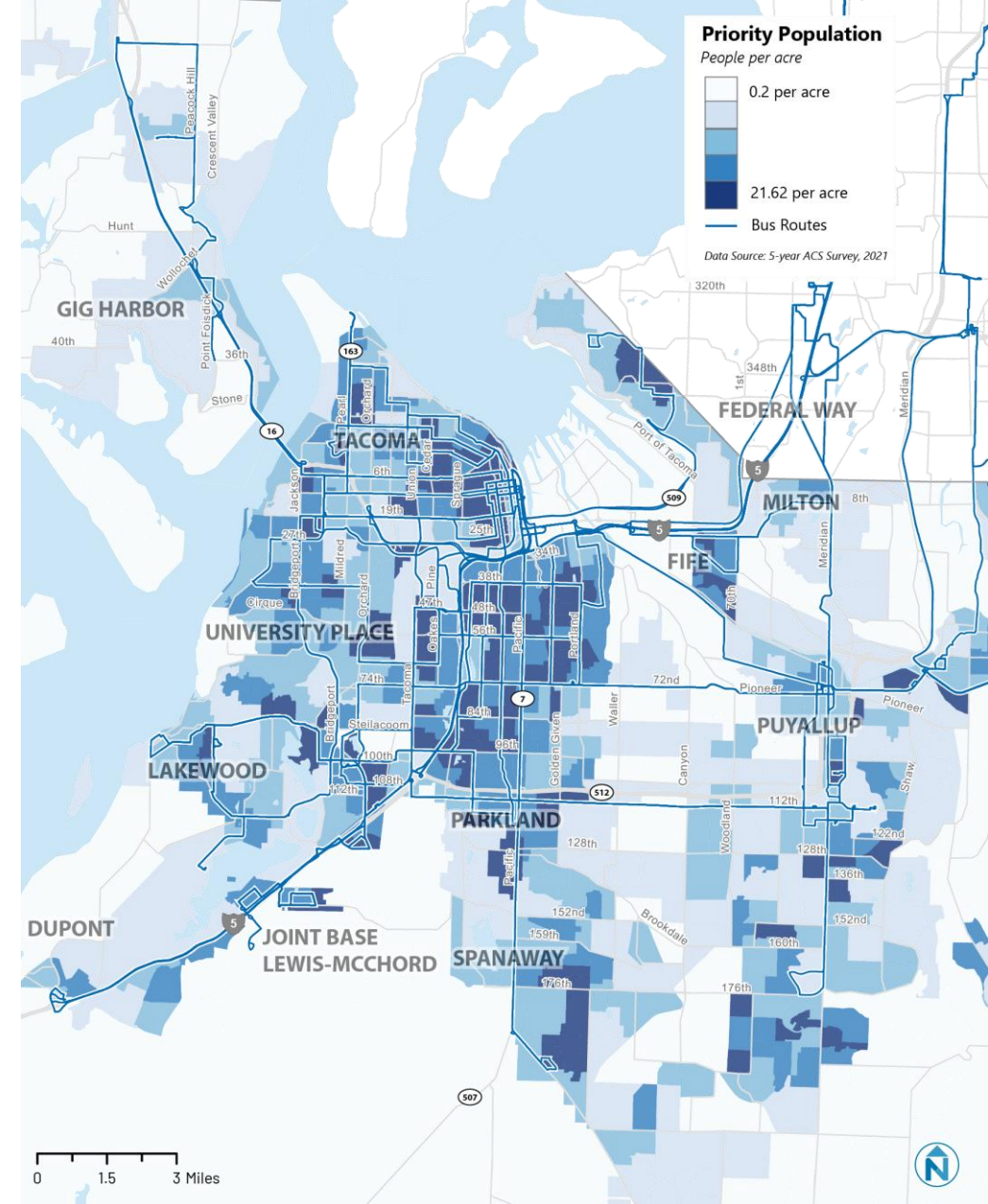
Thomas Wittmann, Principal - Nelson\Nygaard  
Darin Stavish, Principal Planner - Pierce Transit  
Tina Lee, Planning Manager - Pierce Transit

# The Bus System Recovery Plan Steps

- **Seek to understand how to bounce** back from the impacts of COVID-19
- **Capture public feedback** to help better understand the needs of the community
- **Recommend service options** that can help improve mobility for all residents, current riders, and future riders
- **Consider changes** in population, employment densities, and socio-economic factors

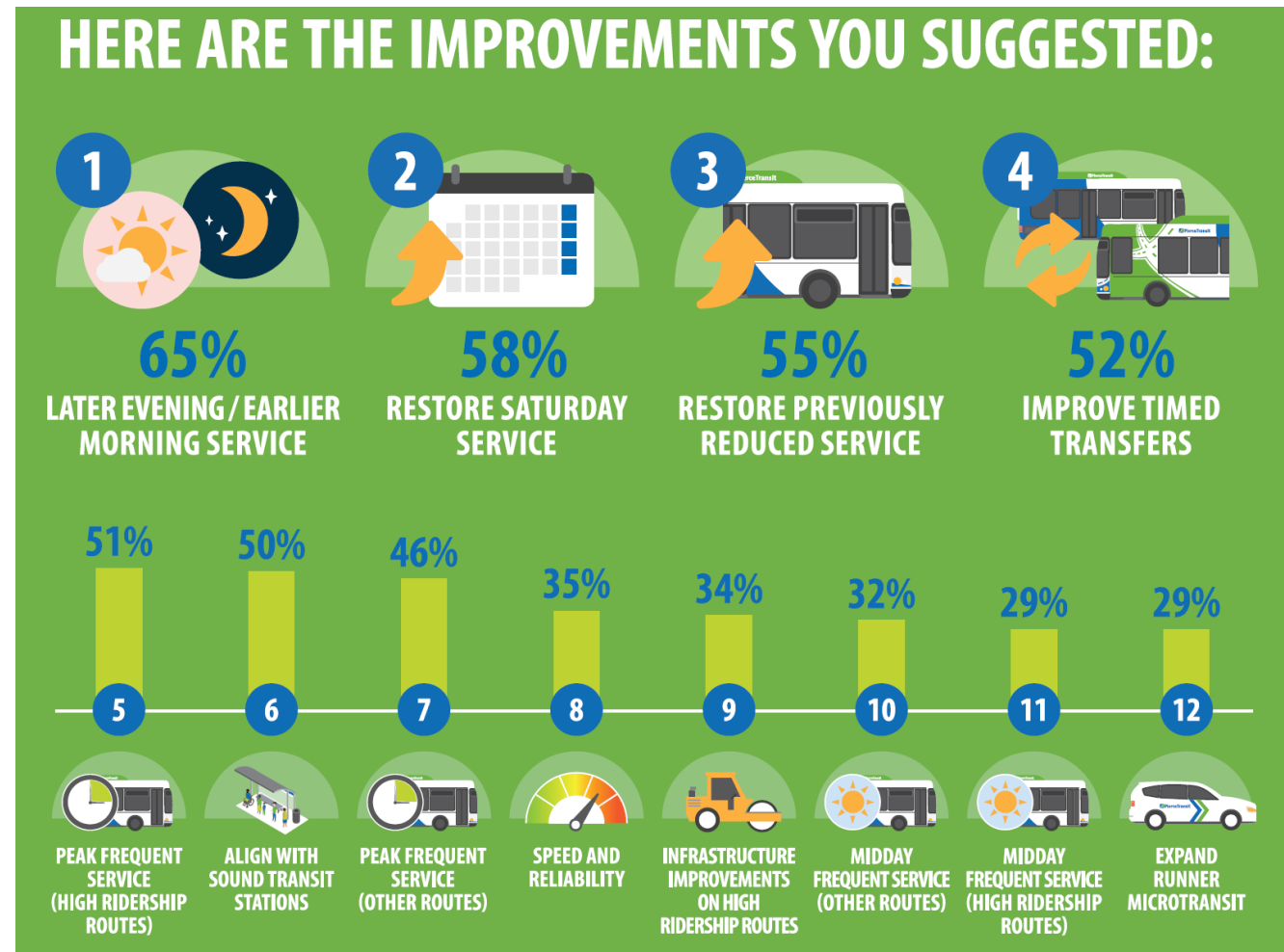
# What data did we look at?

- Ridership and connections for every route
- Fall 2022 travel patterns – using phone data
- Population and employment data
- Socioeconomic data
- Future growth projections and plans



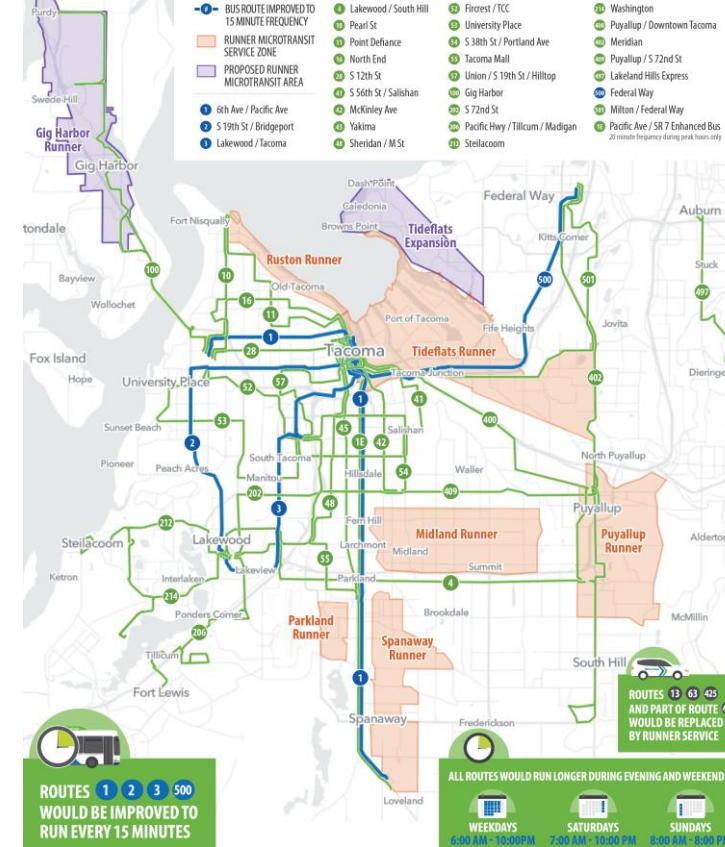
# Two Phases of Outreach Informed Priorities

- First Phase reached out to riders and non-riders before initial scenarios
  - Stakeholder meetings
  - Design Your Own System Survey
  - Operators
- More than 750 responses about priorities



# Two Different Restoration Scenarios Confirmed Priorities

- Second Phase outreach included 11 events, including event tables, virtual open houses, drop-in outreach at transit centers
- A second on-line survey has garnered 204 responses
- We heard community priorities are similar Phase 1 outreach



# Draft Recommendations to Rebuild to Pre-Pandemic Service Levels

- Responds to public's priorities
- Includes a mix of improved frequency and how early/late service runs
- Almost all routes maintain their current travel pattern
- Operator and maintenance staff availability will determine how fast service is rebuilt - ***Implementation will be phased***
- At least 6 phases are anticipated

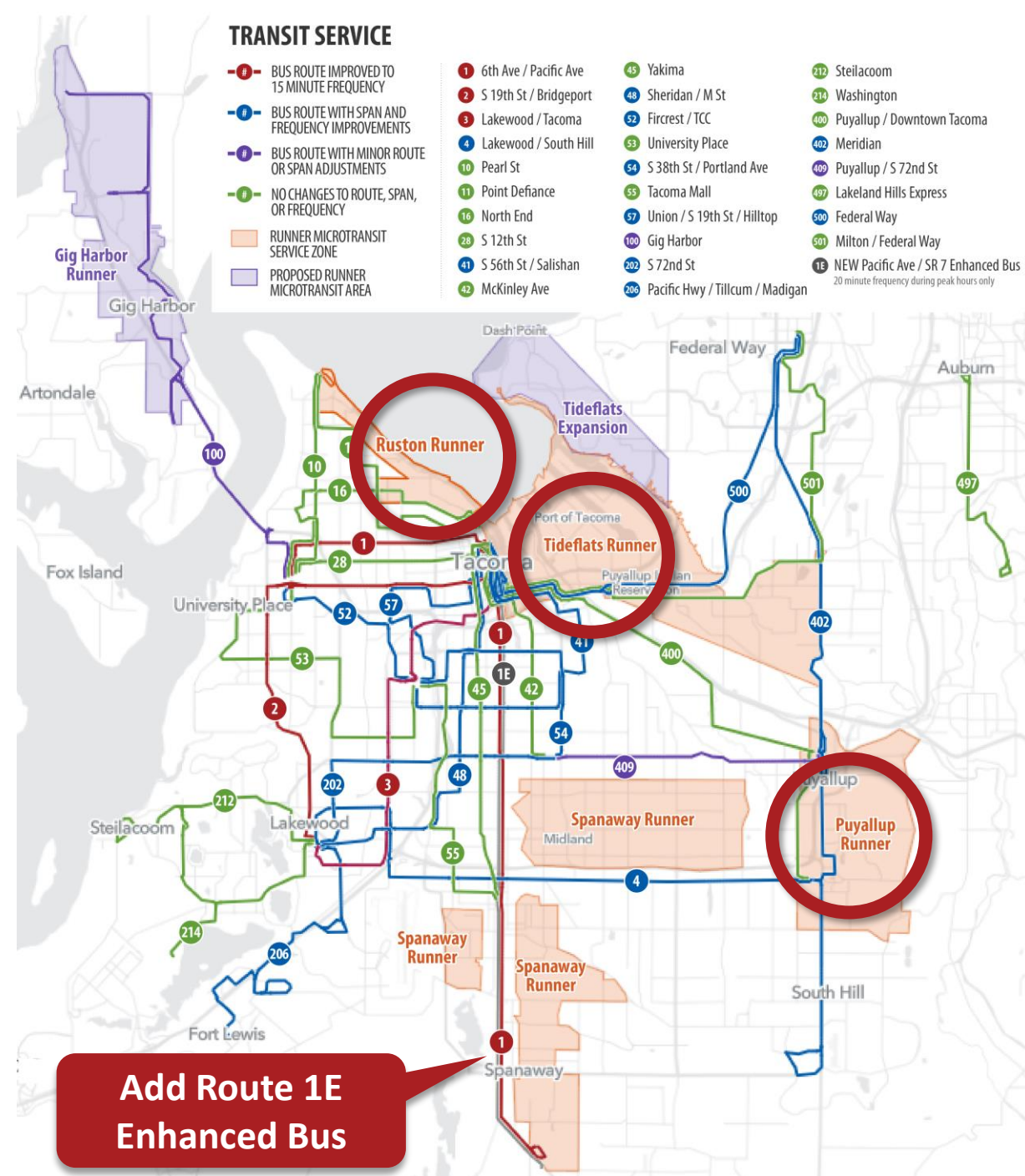
# Draft Recommendations

- New Pacific Ave / SR 7 Enhanced Bus service
- Routes 13, 63, 409, and 425 will change travel patterns, and portions of all will be replaced by Runner service
- Three frequent (every 15-minute) routes (1, 2, and 3)
- The highest ridership routes and routes serving those with the highest needs will operate earlier and later, with minimum targets of:
  - Weekday: 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.
  - Saturday: 7 a.m. – 10 p.m.
  - Sunday: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

# Phase 1 – March 2024

- Add Pacific Ave/SR 7 Enhanced bus
- Retire Route 425 and eastern portion of Route 409 (low-performing routes), Puyallup Runner (implemented late 2023) covers these areas
- Retire Route 63 (low-performing route), expand Tideflats Runner to cover this area. This will require a vehicle larger than a minivan
- Retire Route 13 (low-performing route), expand Ruston Runner to cover this entire route area
- Introduce Gig Harbor Runner

Need:	Phase 1	Cumulative
Revenue Hours	~12,900	~12,900
Operators	~7-9	~9

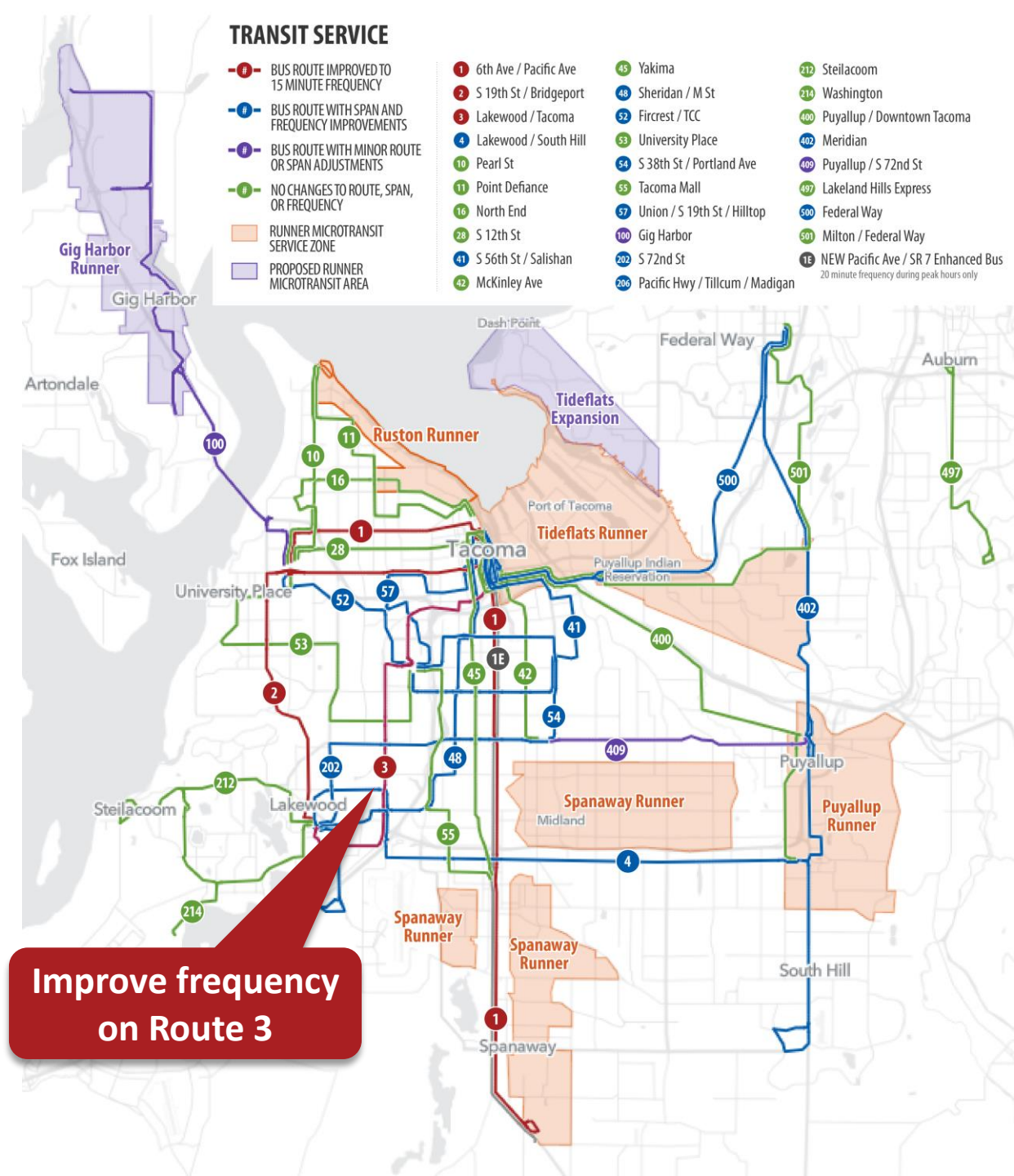




# Phase 2

- Improve frequency on Route 3 to every 15-minutes on weekdays
- Route 3 travels through high need areas and connects to high need routes at Tacoma Mall

Need:	Phase 2	Cumulative
Revenue Hours	~13,700	~26,600
Operators	~7-9	~18

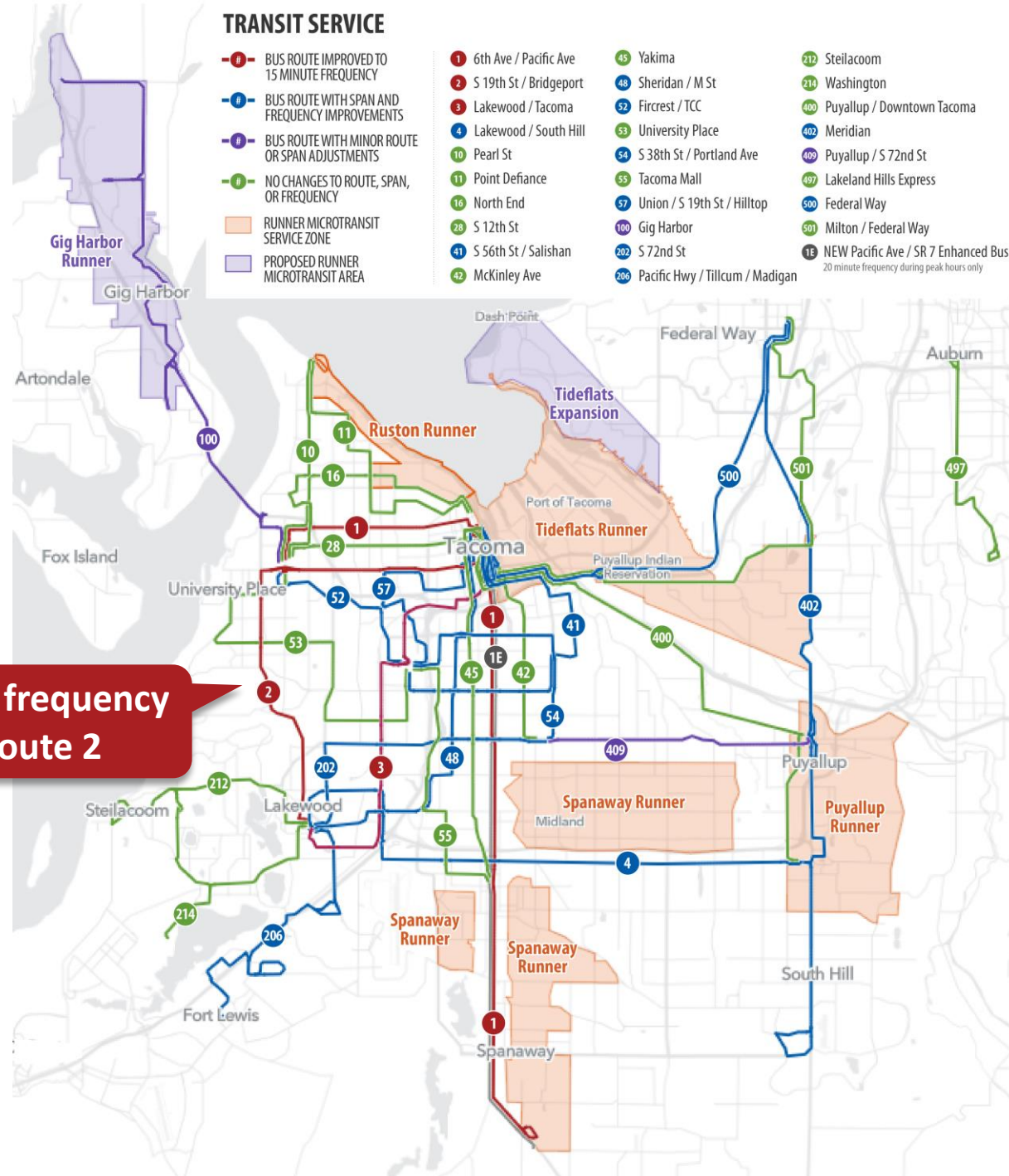


# Phase 3

- Improve frequency on Route 2 to every 15-minutes on weekdays

Improve frequency on Route 2

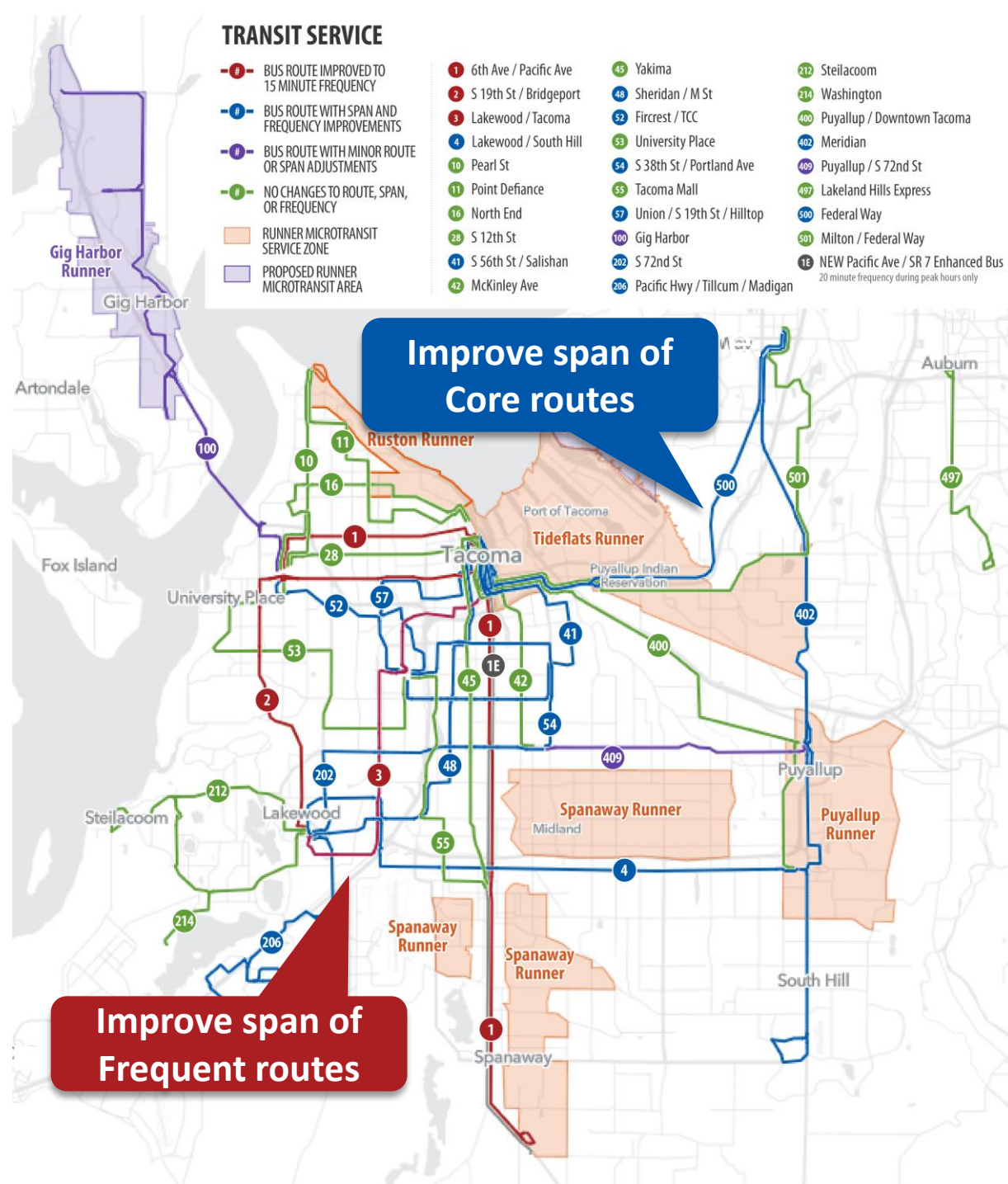
Need:	Phase 3	Cumulative
Revenue Hours	~12,000	~38,600
Operators	~6-8	~26



# Phase 4

- Improve span of Frequent and Core routes to operate up to 10 pm on weekdays and Saturdays and until 8 pm on Sundays
  - Frequent routes: 1, 2, and 3
  - Core routes: 4, 41, 48, 52, 54, 57, 202, 206, 402, and 500.
- Responds to top public priorities
- Core routes were those with the highest ridership, productivity, and equity coverage

Need:	Phase 4	Cumulative
Revenue Hours	~12,000	~50,600
Operators	~6-8	~34



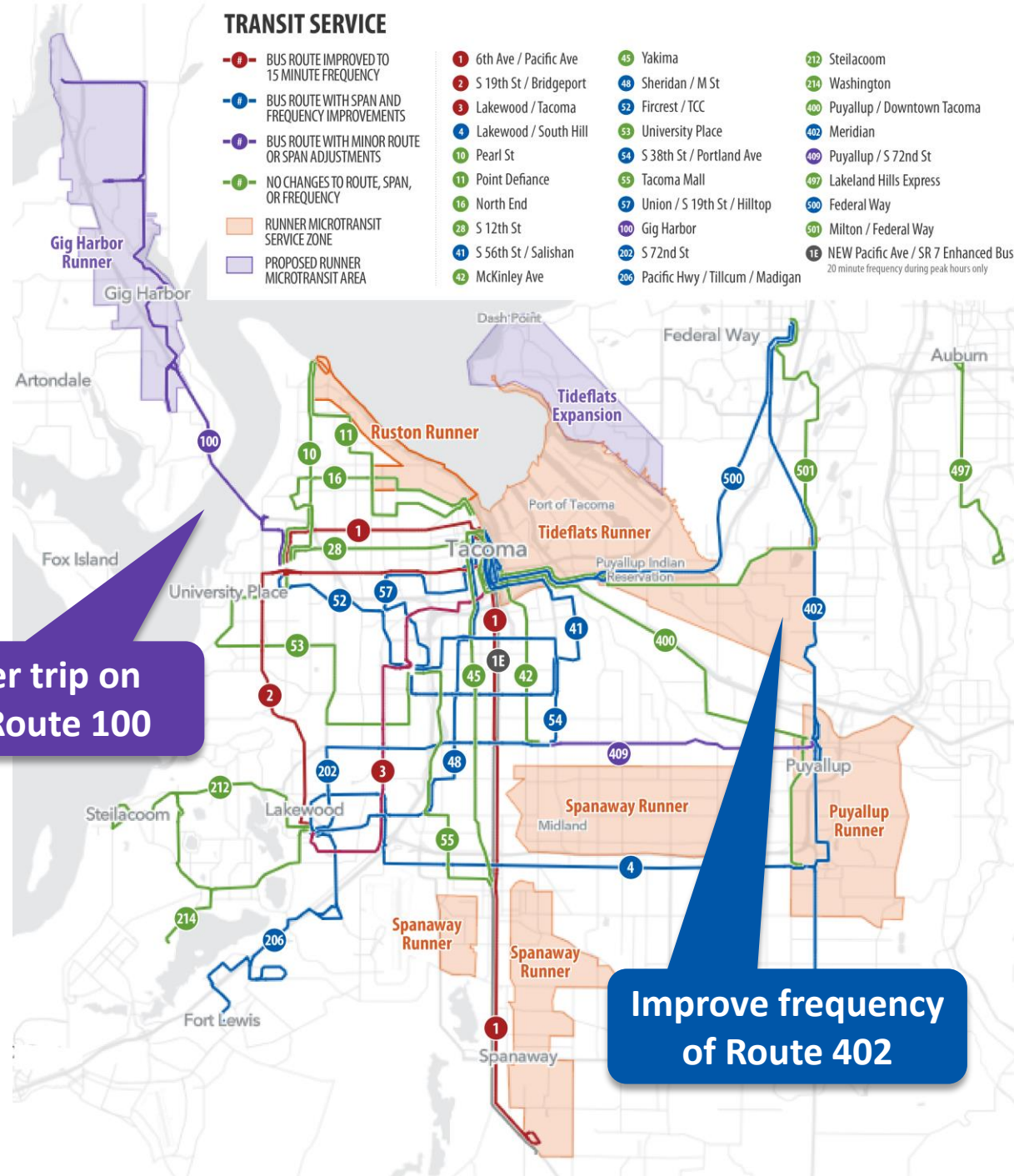
# Phase 5

- Improve frequency of Route 402 to operate every 30-minutes weekdays and Saturdays
- This restores east Pierce County’s primary route frequency
- Operate Route 100 one hour earlier on weekdays

**Add earlier trip on weekday Route 100**

**Improve frequency of Route 402**

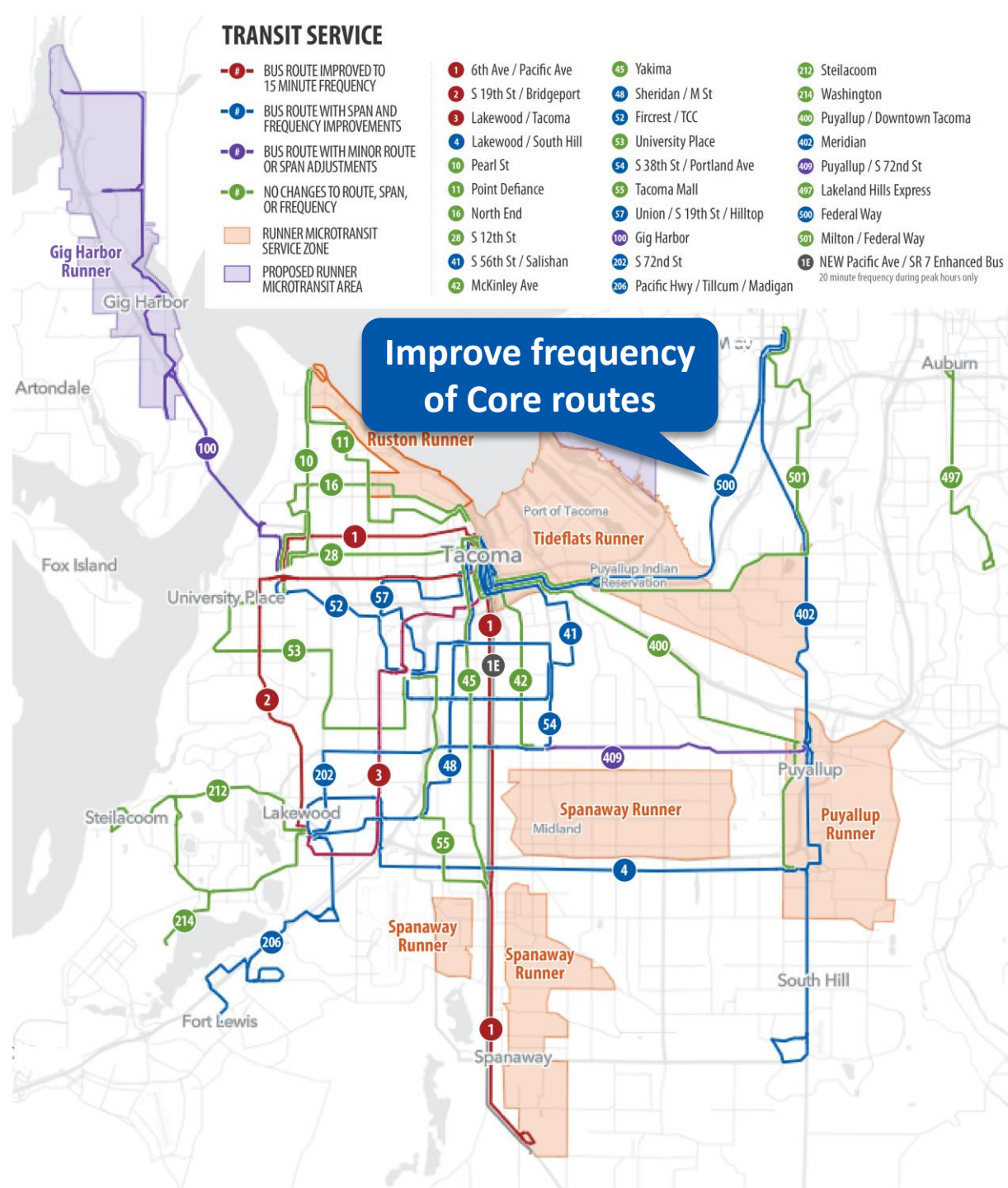
Need:	Phase 5	Cumulative
Revenue Hours	~11,700	~62,300
Operators	~6-8	~42



# Phase 6

- Improve Core routes frequencies so that they operate at 30-minute service on weekdays and Saturdays
- Core routes: 4, 41, 48, 52, 54, 57, 202, 206, 402, and 500

Need:	Phase 6	Cumulative
Revenue Hours	~11,500	~73,800
Operators	~6-8	~50



# Next Steps

**EXISTING  
RIDERSHIP  
ANALYSIS**



**JUNE - JULY**

**DESIGN YOUR  
TRANSIT SYSTEM  
ONLINE SURVEY**



**AUGUST**

**OPEN HOUSES  
AND VIRTUAL  
TOWN HALLS**



**SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER**

**DRAFT BUS SYSTEM  
RECOVERY PLAN**



**NOVEMBER**

**FINAL BUS SYSTEM  
RECOVERY PLAN**

considered for adoption by  
Board of Commissioners



**DECEMBER**